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Why would you want to access this resource?

For multiple reasons! As it turns out, there are numerous benefits for various stakeholders.

- **For students considering graduate work**, searching through patents may help you find a faculty advisor at a university who works in the same field you are interested in pursuing.
- **For students looking for a paper topic**, exploring intellectual property space through Patent Vector can help you identify issues or find evidence with which to test hypotheses.
- **For faculty and researchers**, you can find scholars at other universities who do similar research and may be interested in writing a grant proposal or co-authoring a paper with you.
- **For lab and institute directors**, you can find companies who may be interested in entering into a sponsored research agreement with you based on shared interests.
- **As a university administrator or official**, patent searches can help you identify leading researchers who you may want to add to the top of a search list for new faculty. It can also help give you data on the impact your university or units within your university are having on the world based on how important the patents coming out of your technology transfer offices are compared to other universities.

This course will guide you in using a web-based program called Patent Vector to analyze patents, technology, and innovation trends. Patent Vector not only provides users with access to viewing thousands of patents from across the globe, but also provides tools to analyze the importance and impact of the patent, the assignees and the inventors.

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